

Nicholas Sheran Elementary School Council

Tuesday, April 16th, 2024 @6:30pm in Community Room

Call to Order: Sarah at 6:33pm

WELCOME & Introductions: Karma V. S., Megan H, Anna G, Brittany E, Steve W, Lindsay O, Sarah H, Meggen L., Monnu B, Tyler W, Brette T., Nicole, Aaron F.

Any Additions: What are we going to do with the grant money?

Approval of AGENDA/Second: motion by Megan, second by Lindsay

Approval of MINUTES/Second: Motion by Tyler, Second by Megan

Grade level sharing: Grade 5: Mrs Erickson and Gotgilf,
Each grade 5 room has an intern from the university.
Grade 4s and 5 did book club. It got the kids reading books at their levels.
Similar to Junior high options, the grade 5's have been doing enrichments. A new enrichment they did was 3d printing.
With the interns teaching half time, that gives the teachers time to do learning. Time to go through the new curriculum.
Teachers had science PL recently. Lots of change next year in the new curriculum.
Field trips are coming up for year end.
May 3rd the grade 5 students get to tour the junior high school's.

Administration Report: Aaron F and Stephen W

Staffing Processes – 2024/2025 School Year (Standing Item)

- Admin has had staffing meetings for all employee groups
- Central Office (Ed Centre) is reviewing budgets
- Allocations have not yet been sent to schools; hoping soon!
- Administrator Hiring is ongoing for posted positions (Dr. Plaxton; LCI; Chinook HS; new west side elementary school)

Registration – 2024/2025 School Year (Standing Item)

- *Registration is going well...please encourage anyone you know to get their registrations submitted as soon as they can – it helps us plan for the fall!*
- Expression of Interest in Early Education Programs (EEP) for the 2024/2025 school year; link [here](#).
- Early Education Programs in the Division focus on supporting children with identified needs, who meet the Alberta Education criteria for support in programming. Additional spaces open to the public, as they are available. These spaces do require a fee.

- Kindergarten Registration
 - Process began on January 22, 2024; The process continues into the spring
 - Links to the kindergarten registration process are available [here](#).
- Grades 1-5 Registration
 - This process opened on Monday, March 18, 2024
 - We will be using the Laserfiche registration process we have used for the past several years
 - New student registration (ongoing, all year) is available [here](#).
- Mrs. Miklos or Admin will send out registration summary emails to parents as they are ready to go. We will work with our Middle Schools to support their registration process for our Grade 5s moving on in the fall.
- If any parents have questions or concerns about registration, or if they need any support with the process, please contact the office.

School Division – Spring Budgeting (Standing Item)

- *The School Division received its funding profile on March 28 at the end of the workday. Division Office staff are working through the budgeting process before allocations are sent to Principals.*
- Province Releases Budget (high level), but school divisions wait for their specific funding manual, so they understand specific amounts that will come to the division.
- Combination of base funding (per student funding, based on weighted moving average formula introduced with the first UCP government), and program-specific funding pools and program grants (think: inclusive education; funding for English as an Additional Language learners; school nutrition grants, etc.)
- The School Board Trustees have their own processes to follow, as do the Senior Admin / Executive Council, and our Admin Committee will receive some high-level updates next week.
- We work through a process with the school division. We welcome any questions you may have on budgeting for the school and the division. Also, feel free to reach out to Trustees through all the avenues they provide.

Staffing Updates

- Mrs. Rhodes has started her leave of absence. Baby is not here yet but coming soon. We wish the Rhodes family well! Admin is working with HR to complete staffing for the rest of the school year. An email was sent to families last week.
- Mrs. Wood will be having scheduled surgery on April 17, so her last day is April 16. Again, the Admin is working with HR to staff for the leave of absence until Mrs. Wood is cleared to return to work. We wish her well with her surgery and recovery! An email was sent to families last week.
- Mr. Firth was away last week, and unfortunately must now extend his medical leave another four weeks. We will work with Mr. Firth and with our guest teacher, Ms. Coral Birch, to provide as much care and consistency as possible for our students. Mme Chudobiak and the Grade Four EAs will provide a lot of support to the students and

Ms. Birch as well. We wish Josh good luck with his medical needs. We communicated with families.

- For 14 years, Nadia Britton has been the Learning Support Teacher in Nikki's Den, which is a division-based program that is run out of our school. Last Friday, we met with families of students in this program to share that Nadia's role will see some changes next year. For 2024/2025, Nadia will be supporting our two students in Nikki's Den, while also taking more of a division-wide approach to support. We do not have all the details in place yet, but we are excited to support Nadia as she grows into a new role.
- Mrs. Lee Ann Howe has confirmed her return to Nicholas Sheran Elementary School from her one-year leave of absence. She will re-join our teaching staff for the 2024/2025 school year.
- Mr. Kaupp, the head caretaker is taking time off because his wife is having a baby.

Practicum Students

- Our PSIII intern teachers (Miss Saggu, Miss Bedard, Miss Saunders, Mrs. Gros Ventre Boy, and Miss Saunders) are finishing their internships on Friday, April 19. They have contributed to our learning community in positive and impactful ways. We are proud of them, and we are sad to see them go!
- Our PSII student teacher, Miss Stange, will be finished on Thursday, April 18. She has had a successful student teaching round in Mrs. Niven's classroom. We are grateful for her time at our school.

Student Fee Reporting

- Thank you to the parents and staff who have been giving me feedback on my communication to families. I plan to send that update this week.

Pickle Ball

- April 11 went well! Students were engaged and loved it. We are excited to see where our skills will be by the end of the after-school program!

Some of our Celebrations:

- NSES Senior Choir invited to perform at the Provincial Music Festival! Our choir created and sent a digital submission. The school division created an article that you can access here:
[Nicholas Sheran Senior Choir set to compete in Provincial Music Festival | Lethbridge School Division \(lethsd.ab.ca\)](https://www.lethsd.ab.ca/news/nicholas-sheran-senior-choir-set-to-compete-in-provincial-music-festival)
- Mr. Sheedy and Mrs. Britton are invited to a special ceremony on the evening of April 19. Our music program will be receiving an award from the Lethbridge Music and Speech Arts Festival, so we look forward to discovering what award that is, and how we can celebrate with the students.

- **TD Grant Friends of the Environment Fund**
 - NSES applied to the TD FEF program requesting \$8000.00 to create an Indigenous Medicine Garden.
 - We're excited to share that our grant application has been approved and we're looking forward to exploring this project and including the whole school in its planning and creation.

- **April 30, Open House at G. S. Lakie**
 - Please consider attending the Open House on April 30 at G. S. Lakie. The Executive Council and the Board of Trustees will share the most likely westside elementary school boundaries that will be implemented in the 2025/2026 school year when the new elementary school opens.
 - Open House runs from 4:30 – 8:00pm.

- **Nobody's Perfect Parenting Program**
 - DeeAnna Presley Roberts, our Family Support Supervisor and Mental Health Capacity Building Team Program Manager, reached out with a pilot project they are doing at our school.
 - We would like to introduce the Nobody's Perfect Parenting Series. This program gives parents a safe place to meet others with children of the same age and with shared interests and concerns. Sessions are based on what parents want to learn about and are free, interactive, and fun.
 - This series of learning sessions will take place in the afternoon on the following dates:
 - Tuesday, April 23
 - Wednesday, April 24
 - Tuesday, April 30
 - Wednesday, May 1
 - Tuesday May 7, and finally,
 - Wednesday, May 8

- All parents of a child in our **Early Education Program (EEP) AND Kindergarten** are welcome to attend. Topics discussed will be Connection, Parenting, Stress, the Body, the Mind, and Behaviour. Childcare will be provided for you during the time you are in the learning sessions. Both sessions and childcare will be offered here at Nicholas Sheran School while EEP takes place.

- For more information, or to register, please see the attached poster and please reach out to DeeAnna Presley Roberts from our Mental Health Capacity Building team and Making Connections. You can reach DeeAnna by email at: deeanna.presleyroberts@lethsd.ab.ca.

- **Important March / April Events**
 - April 15 – 19 – Education Week
 - April 16 – NS School Council Meeting

- April 18 – NS Values Assembly, 9:30am
 - April 18 – Choir and Handbells groups performing at NS Values Assembly, 9:30am
 - April 18 – KFC Orders Due
 - April 29 – KFC Hot Lunch Day
 - April 30 – Grade 5s receive presentations from SJF Band
 - April 30 – Microsoft Education visits for Grade 5 Classes
 - April 30 - Westside Elementary School Boundary Engagement at G. S. Lakie Middle School from 4:30 – 8:00pm... very important!
 - May 2024 – Look for information on the Moose Hide Campaign
 - May 2 – Dance-A-Thon
 - May 3 – Grade 5 Middle School Visits
 - May 8 – Hats On! For Mental Health
 - May 11 – City Wide Handbells Concert (7pm)
 - May 13 – Yearbook Orders Due
 - May 20 – No School (Victoria Day)
 - May 21 – Professional Learning Day (No school for students)
 - May 21 – School Travel Planning Meeting (5:30pm)
 - May 21 – School Council Meeting (6:30pm)
- School councils have been amalgamating their bank account with the school bank account. We're one of the few school council's who have their own bank accounts. Benefit of that is that the money is more protected in the school's bank account.

Treasurer Report: Lacey M (Sarah H will read report)

Financial requests: When Monnu signed up for the ASCA conference, they charged him \$19.95. Tyler motions we refund Monnu that money. Nicole Second.

Hot Lunch/Fundraising Report: Lindsay O

Kernels was lower than usual. We made \$486

Dance a thon coming up on May 2nd. Our goal is to earn \$6000. April 28, 29 and 30th kids can bring in cash for that.

KFC is our last hot lunch of the year. That closes Friday . delivered April 29th.

Last fundraiser is Little Caesars Pizza kits. Delivered June 3rd.

District Council Report: Monnu B / Tyler W

- The learning session was about budget. Short 280 full time students not being funded this year. 143million dollars is what the division gets for their budget this year. The numbers are all posted on the website.
- Talked about ASCA. 2 people are attending. Some of them will be carrying proxy's for other schools.
- Discussed what each school has for website and school council. Sounds like it's different for each school.

- Talked about how to vote on policy's. the website has been made easier if you want to do it from a phone.
- Union contracts are up for renewal. Negotiations have started for new contracts.
- All details from this meeting are in the minutes on their website here: <https://www.lethsd.ab.ca/parents/district-school-council/meetings>
- Poverty intervention committee – food bank was asking if there's any feel-good stories of our students being impacted. Food bank would like to use stories for fundraising and advertising. If anyone has a story, message Monnu Bains at monnubains@gmail.com
- May 21st from 1-3:30pm there's a budget meeting that the division is holding. There is a survey related to it. We should get that next division meeting.
- Next parent learning session is likely to be on the policy regarding anti racism.

Trustee Report:

- Meeting minutes sent out to school chairs and can be accessed here: <https://www.lethsd.ab.ca/board/board-meetings>

Executive Council Report:

Old Business: Alberta School Council Engagement grant money. \$500 we need to spend. We can use it for parent engagement or parent learning.

Steven and Aaron will reach out to their connections to see if they can find a speaker to come in and talk to parents.

It can also be spent on books that parents can borrow and read.

Brette motions that we use the money for parent council members to do training courses on the ASCA website. Megan second. All in favour.

New Business:

- ASCA AGM Resolutions voting (Monnu B)
 1. Integrate Climate and Biodiversity Education Throughout the Curriculum from K-12
 - a. All in favour
 2. Funding for More Assessments of Learning Disabilities
 - a. All in favour
 3. Improving Indoor Air Quality in Alberta Classrooms and Shared Environments
 - a. All in favour
 4. Equity in Playground Funding
 - a. All in favour
 5. Preserving Safe and Inclusive Spaces for 2SLGBTQI+ Students
 - a. 8 in favour, 1 abstain
 6. Resource Support for French Immersion Teachers

- a. All in favour
7. Enhanced Reporting of and Support for Class Size and Complexity
 - a. All in favour

Monnu is the Key Communicator from our school council for this conference. If anyone has any questions, please contact Monnu at monnubains@gmail.com

<https://www.albertaschoolcouncils.ca/public/download/files/241024>

- Reminder that there will be a boundary change open house April 30th from 4:30-8:00pm at G.S. Lakie Middle School 50 Blackfoot Blvd W. This is a drop in opportunity for members of the public to view and provide feedback on the preliminary options to realign elementary school boundaries in west Lethbridge.

Motion to Adjourn/Second: motion by Lindsay, second by Monnu